

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 704

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the use of Civil Air Patrol personnel and resources to support homeland security missions, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 25, 2009

Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. BURR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the use of Civil Air Patrol personnel and resources to support homeland security missions, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CIVIL AIR PATROL STUDY.**

4 (a) STUDY.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of
6 the United States shall conduct a study of the func-
7 tions and capabilities of the Civil Air Patrol to sup-
8 port the homeland security missions of State, local,

1 and tribal governments and the Department of
2 Homeland Security.

3 (2) SCOPE.—In conducting the study under this
4 subsection, the Comptroller General of the United
5 States shall review the process by which the Civil Air
6 Patrol may provide assistance to the Department of
7 Homeland Security, other Federal departments and
8 agencies, and States to support homeland security
9 missions by—

10 (A) providing aerial reconnaissance or
11 communications capabilities for border security;

12 (B) providing capabilities for collective re-
13 sponse to an act of terrorism, natural disaster,
14 or other man-made event, by assisting in dam-
15 age assessment and situational awareness, con-
16 ducting search and rescue operations, assisting
17 in evacuations, transporting time-sensitive med-
18 ical or other materials;

19 (C) providing assistance in the exercise
20 and training of departmental resources respon-
21 sible for the intercept of aviation threats to des-
22 ignated restricted areas; or

23 (D) such other activities as may be deter-
24 mined appropriate by the Comptroller General
25 in the conduct of the study.

1 (b) REPORT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
3 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comp-
4 troller General of the United States shall submit to
5 the Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-
6 mental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on
7 Homeland Security and the Committee on Transpor-
8 tation and Infrastructure of the House of Represent-
9 atives a report containing the findings of the study
10 conducted under subsection (a).

11 (2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under
12 paragraph (1) shall include—

13 (A) an assessment of the feasibility and
14 cost-effectiveness of using Civil Air Patrol as-
15 sets for the purposes described in subsection
16 (a); and

17 (B) an assessment of whether the mecha-
18 nisms in effect on the date of enactment of this
19 Act for Federal departments and agencies and
20 States to request support from the Civil Air Pa-
21 trol are sufficient or whether additional agree-
22 ments between relevant Federal departments
23 and agencies and the Civil Air Patrol are nec-
24 essary.

1 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days
2 after the date on which the Comptroller General of the
3 United States completes the study under subsection (a),
4 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall review and ana-
5 lyze the study and submit to the Committee on Homeland
6 Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the
7 Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on
8 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
9 resentatives a report on the study, which shall include any
10 recommendations of the Secretary for further action that
11 could affect the organization and administration of the
12 Department of Homeland Security.

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